4th April 1953]

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" No such proposal is at present under the consideration of the Government."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Sir, in view of the fact that this particular place is a predominantly Muslim area and if the school is not raised into a Higher Elementary School, the Muslim girls will be denied the opportunity of higher elementary education, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to enquire into the matter and take necessary steps?"

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" Yes, Sir."

Midday meals in schools.

* 270 Q.—SRI G. SIVASANKARA REDDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state the action taken on the proposals sent by the Member of the Legislative Assembly from Hindupur, some time back that midday meals should be supplied to Scheduled Caste boys studying in various schools in Rayalaseema?

THE HON DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" No such proposal has been received by Government.

The scheme of supplying midday meals is at present confined only to the Harijan Welfare schools run by Government. The scheme could not be extended to other schools now on account of the heavy cost and the present financial stringency."

SRI G. SIVASANKARA REDDI :—" Sir, I have personally submitted a proposal of that sort to the Hon. Minister even in the beginning of last year. Will the Government consider implementing my proposal for supplying midday meal at least for the duration of the famine period in view of the fact that these poor Scheduled Caste people are unable to send their children to schools for lack of food and on account of serious famine conditions prevailing in that area? "

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" Sir, the matter will be considered taking into account the financial condition of the Government."

SRI V. V. RAMASAMI :—"Sir, if the financial condition of the Government improves, will the Government consider the question of supplying midday meals to all Harijan students throughout the State? "

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" Sir, if the financial condition improves we will consider the question of supplying midday meals to all poor children throughout the State."

Representations from Sree Venkateswara Vilas Pustaka Bhandagaram, Yellamanchili taluk.

* 274 Q.—SRI K. GOVINDA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state— 8-40 a.m.

(a) whether it is a fact that several requests were made to the Government by the authorities of the Sree Venkateswara Vilas